

# The Daily Gazetteer.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23. 1740.

No. 1509.



HERE certainly never was an Age in which scurrilous Abuse was so much in fashion as at the present. I do not pretend to say, that in all Ages and under all Governments there have not been Malecontents and Writers of Libels: I say, I do not pretend to assert this, because

I know the contrary to be true. Even in Queen Elizabeth's Time, which we now talk of as the Golden Age, there were Malecontents, Libels, and Scandalous Verses. But what I observe to be peculiar to the present Age is this, that Abuse is now commonly approved, and no Man blushes when he either reads or commends a Libel. In former times there were few People who had Brags enough to own Performances of this Stamp; and all who had the Character of religious and sober Men detested such Attacks upon other People's Reputations. To this wise Conduct is owing the Veneration that we now have for those who lived in the Times before-mentioned; and by the same Rule the Opinion of our Posterity, at the Distance of a Couple of Centuries, may be guessed at, with respect to the present Age. Some of our Histories will certainly go down, but if by Chance a Set or Two of the Craftsman is preserved so long, we cannot hesitate at believing, that whoever coolly reads them will be persuaded, that about the Middle of the Eighteenth Century we were a very lawless People, void of all Respect of Government, and having very little Sense of Shame. This will be the more easily swallowed on account of Mr. D'Anvers's confident Assertions, that the Bulk of his Countrymen were of his Way of thinking; and were extremely pleased to see one Monarch abused, when scarce put into his Tomb, and another immediately after his Accession turned in to Ridicule for Reviewing his Forces.

If those in Power had followed the same Method, and returned Scandal for Scandal, and one ill-natur'd Story for another, Posterity might have been still better entertain'd at our Expence; but for their own Sakes, and for the Sake of Decency, they have prudently forbore. Nothing is more common than to hear our Malecontents talk of Mercenaries, and the Liberties taken by Court-Writers: I wonder, their Patrons have not considered the Consequences of this, and advised them to hold their Tongues: If the Ministry were inclined to raise Mercenaries, might they not easily have them? Would not some who now merely abuse them enter into Pay? They might then have an Opportunity of writing with less Labour, because they might have new Characters to pull to pieces: They might compare this Patriot to a Chimney-Sweeper, the other to a Gladiator; banter this Man for a Short Nose, and that for wanting some of his Teeth. There is no answering this by saying that such Reflections would be gross and stupid, because they would not be more so on the one Side than on the other. We have seen a Man run down as a Statesman, for not having a fine Shape, and we have seen another cry'd up as a Politician, for having wrote a tolerable Poem. On the Whole, it is most certain, that if Men in Power had been either as inconsiderate or as vindictive as some who are out, the Gazetteer might be made much more entertaining than it is, by bringing into it, from Time to Time, Supplies of Secret History stolen from Private Conversations, bribed out of Cast Servants, or at a Pinch probably invented, and boldly vouched for Truth. As a very late & ingenious Writer tells us:

The Art of Satire mark with modern Wits.  
Lo! at his Desk Apollo's Tell-Tale sits!  
In Common-Place-Book see! a Kite-like String  
Of Scandal from the Member to the King!  
Collected all with some Expence, some Toil,  
To serve as Dung for the Satirick Soil:  
Some glean'd from Town-Talk, some again from  
As some from Abigail's Prolifick Minn. [Print;

As this would be a very easy Method of transferring the War, and of making the Party uneasy, by turning on them their own Arts, so it is certain that with

\* The Satirists. A Poem inscrib'd to his Grace the Duke of Marlborough. 1740.

Respect to them it would have very fatal Effects. For notwithstanding the Readiness, and the Severity, with which the Malecontents rally others, there is not one of them can bear even the gentlest Stroke himself. If you talk of a noble Author who discovers a conscious Sense of his own great Abilities, immediately somebody takes Fire, and is for breaking your Bones, and prosecuting your Printer. But if they compare Members of Parliament to Negroes, it is perfectly just, and if any Man takes Offence at it, he is a Coxcomb. All Sorts of Vices are to be found amongst the Patriots as well as amongst other Men; nor is it a difficult Matter to make them inform one against another. For Example, write but a smart Paper against Avarice, and tho' there be nothing in it which a Plain Man would conceive to be Personal, yet one of these Criticks will presently find out the Features of his Friend. *What an impudent Fellow is this, says he! to paint the great Cato in such a Light: What if he is a little too saving, may be it is to oblige his Wife; but shall these Insults bred by the Heat of Power, insult a Man of his Merit; the World is come to a fine Pass?* This Judgment, however false and unfounded, flies immediately over the Town, the Paper becomes a Libel thenceforward, and its Author is looked upon as an outrageous Enemy to Cato, tho' ten to one he never once had him in his Head. It is the same Thing with twenty other People; their Friends know their Foibles, and daily find their Characters in Moral Papers, which were sincerely meant to reform all, but to hurt none. This is another Consequence of the Spirit of Abuse, which like the Juices in a vitiated Stomach converts the most innocent Nutriment into Gall, and makes that a Poison which was intended for a Medicine.

There is another Mischief induced by the same odd Turn of Thought, and it is this; from Publick Railery and State Satire People descend to the Use of the same Weapons in Private Life; and as Duels are Transcripts of lawless Skirmishes, so attacking a Man in the Papers is transcribed from the frequent Attacks of Ministers there. If a Lady sees her Neighbour better dress'd than herself at a Play, she is immediately for putting some favourite Man of Wit, on drawing up a malicious Paragraph; or if he writes in Rhyme, an Epigram. This might be pass'd by, for all Things are excusable in the Ladies; but Things are now come to such a Pass, that Tradesmen entertain the World with their Quarrels, and endeavour to put off their flat Commodities by brisk Advertising. This Vice is, in short, become so epidemick, that we have lately seen some sparring Blows between the Illustrious Proprietor of German Balls, and the Ingenious Inventor of English Liquid Blacking; tho' the latter, I think, as our Countryman, has an indubitable Right to be prefer'd. Upon Second Thoughts I am not so angry with this Excess as I was. For as punishing such a Fellow as Caleb D'Anvers procured the Disuse of Ostracism among the Greeks, and as the hanging Mrs. Turner, for poisoning Sir Thomas Overbury, in a yellow-starch'd Ruff, drove out that silly Fashion in the Reign of King James I. I am in hopes that Libels, since they are fallen so low, will very quickly be quite lost. As a proper Expedient for completing this, I would propose that some Knights of the Box, who have been lately charged with some bare-faced Practices, tho' in Masquerade, should vindicate their Characters in the Publick Prints, and endeavour to turn the Tables upon their Adversaries; which, considering their uncommon Assurance, might not be impracticable; especially if they are, as most of these Gentlemen are known to be, warm Enemies to Corruption, and the present Evil Administration.

Some People would excuse these things by pretending, that tho' private Persons are hurt, yet they are also reformed by these Sort of Censures. But this I deny: Abuse makes a Man angry, and angry People never think themselves in the wrong. Admit that I am well acquainted with a Man who is so unlucky as to have a Wife extremely stingy, always on bad Terms with her Servants, and never in the good Graces of her Tradesmen; must I at my Friend's Table dress up a Character which nearly resembles his Wife, and play it off for the Diversion of the Company under pretence of intending her Reformation? Surely this would be thought a very slight Pretence. The Lady, as she had Reason, would exert her shrill

Voice, describe me perhaps in my Turn, and so a good Entertainment might end with a lasting Quarrel instead of a Desert. *Soft Words, with the Wife Man, turn away Wrath,* and in Conformity to this Observation, one might say that general Characters best reprehend Vices; but alas! what Character can be called general now? Write as cautiously as you will, you hurt Two People at least, for your Friends will apply the Character to one, and your Enemies to another: Why? Because a Character, like a Suit of Clothes, is always thought to belong to somebody, and that Somebody is judged of according as the Critick fancies it fits.

But of all Kinds of Abuse, that is the most piercing and the least pardonable, which wears the Guise of Paregryck. There are at this time of Day some Men of such Art, that they make their Court to both Parties, and what they offer as Civilities to the one, they atone for to the other, by placing it in the Light of Censure. Cunning is become so much more valuable than Wisdom, that a Fellow who can do this is not said to have a burnish'd Front, but a strong Head, as if Falshood argu'd Abilities, and Impudence could supply Capacity. When *Milo* praises his Patron, you may discern from the Words he makes use of, that he has studied his Speech. In the ordinary Sense of the Words it is pretty smooth Flattery; but here lies the Charm, you may read it backwards like a Witch's Prayer, and then it is severe Abuse. To what mighty Purpose all this? Why *Milo* dines upon the fair Side of his Speech, and sups upon the Unraveling it! At Noon he is my Lord's very good Friend, and in the Evening the Squire styles him a shrewd Fellow. I might carry this farther, and apply it to some People who write in the *Janus* Style. But I abhor Abuse, and will never commit it under Colour of Declaiming against it. It is not impossible, but an honest Man in the Course of his Life may see Reason to change Sides; but it can never happen that an honest Man should attempt to deceive both Sides, nor in the End can it answer any Man's Purpose. Soon or later his Secret will break out, and then it may be said of his Scheme as of the Powder Plot, As soon as the Noise is heard the Danger is over.

One thing more with respect to the now-reigning Spirit of Spite, and I have done: Such as have quick Wits, or sharp Pens, imagine that it raises their Characters mightily to strike out now and then into this Road; a little Consideration would cure that Fault. We laugh at a Buffon, but we don't esteem him. Some People like to see Prize-fighting, who notwithstanding despise the Gladiators. There is a Laugh of Contempt as well as Approbation, and if a Man is not judicious enough to distinguish these, he may go near to confound the two most opposite Things in the World, Scorn and Admiration. There is but one thing that can be pleaded for taking these Liberties, and that is the sole Plea which is never used—The Desire of earning Bread. I call this an Excuse, because a Man will do any thing to eat, and rather bite another, than not use his Teeth. This then of all others should seem the best Reason for expelling Abuse. For since nothing can excuse it but the sharp Sense of Want, it must either be taken *pro confesso*, that he who abuses another is starving, and then he is to be pitied; or that he deserves starving, and ought therefore to be abhorred. These I hope will not be call'd Party Sentiments, but whatever they are call'd, I am confident they are just, and tho' many a supercilious Critick may turn 'em into Ridicule in the *Gazetteer*, yet he will not fail to own their Rectitude in his own Breast. Conscious of this, I shall bear without Concern, whatever Coffee-house Wife-acres shall be pleas'd to say of this Labour, for tho' I really hate Abuse, yet I am certain few People despise it more.

R. FREEMAN.

## HOME PORTS.

Portsmouth, April 21. On Saturday came to Spit-head from Plymouth his Majesty's Ship the *Weymouth*, Lord Aubrey Beauchamp, when sailed to St. Hellens his Majesty's Ship the *Ludlow Castle*, Capt. Cuzick, and Yesterday she sail'd from thence for New York, with a strong Wind at North.

This Morning a pretty large Quantity of Snow fell here and in the neighbouring Places; something very extraordinary at this Time of the Year.

At



At Spithead are Nine Sail of Men of War. Wind at N. E. blowing very fresh.  
*Deal, April 21.* Wind W by N. Remains the Codrington, Baraffon, for Antigua. Came down and sail'd thro', the Bladen, Rhymes, for New England, and the Sarah and Elizabeth, Sacket, for Antigua. Arrived the Dolphin, Hargous, from Bilbao.

#### L O N D O N

*Yesterday arriv'd a Mail from Holland.*

Letters of the 24th of March last from Naples say, that the two Officers of the Regiment of Limerick, who took Sanctuary in the Monastery of Mount Calvary after having kill'd their Colonel, are confin'd there in Irons, and that they have confess'd their Crime. They add, that the Execution of the Decree for admitting the Jews into that Kingdom is suspend'd, to the great Joy of the People, who were enrag'd at the Thoughts of their Coming.

Those of the 11th Inst. from Paris say, that five Regiments are employ'd in the Grand Canal at Gravelin, of which three are encamp'd in the Town, and two in the Neighbourhood. They confirm the Departure of the Spanish Squadron from Cadix with 2500 Men of regular Troops on board, to be distributed at Carthagena, the Havanna, &c.

They write from Constantinople, that the Defensive Alliance between Sweden and the Ottoman Porte was actually concluded and sign'd, and the Ratification of it expected every Day from Stockholm.

A Letter of the 29th ult. from Rome says, that the Day that the Cardinal de Sintzendorf arriv'd there from Germany he went with the Prince de Craon's Son, and paid a Visit to the Pretender; and that several Persons are taken up for carrying about Pasquinades and other Satires on the Affairs of the Conclave, of which there is one in particular upon Cardinal Coscia, because he is the only Cardinal that has not a Passive Voice.

One of the same Date from Leghorn says they have Advice from Majorca, that the Spaniards have already landed 16000 Men, who were to be follow'd without Delay by 8000 more, and that they were preparing in good earnest to lay Siege to Portmahone.

*Extract of a Letter from Stockholm to a Foreign Minister at Hambourg.*

"We are approaching to the Moment that will certainly discover the Cause why such great Armaments are making in this Kingdom, tho' no body ventures at present to say what it is. Every one allows, that the Forces of Russia are superior, and 'tis likewise acknowledg'd, that in case of a Rupture that Power might do a great deal of Mischief to the Swedish Coasts by means of her Gallies and other Vessels; consequently these Reasons augment the Impatience there is for a speedy Eclaircissement. Mean time 'tis certain, that the People are in a great Agitation, and that if instead of 80000 Men that are actually on foot in this Kingdom, there was a Necessity for 100000, the Government might depend on having them in a very little time, so fond are People for lifting in the Army," &c. &c.

The Letters of the 11th from Hanover say they have Advice from Cassel, that the Regency has drawn up a Plan for receiving the Princess Mary of England when she goes over thither with her future Spouse the Prince Frederick, and that the same is sent to Stockholm to be considered by his Royal Uncle the King of Sweden.

Yesterday Mr. Lytton was appointed and sworn in Surgeon of his Majesty's Ship the Shrewsbury, Capt. Townshend Commander, a Third Rate of 80 Guns now lying at Portsmouth.

Yesterday General Keith lay very dangerously ill at his Lodgings in New Bond-street. Capt. Thomas Coleman is appointed Commandore of a Squadron designed for the West-Indies.

Yesterday died at his House at North-End, William Bradley, Esq; formerly Governor of New-Jersey.

Last Saturday Night at Mr. Walters, Master of the Queen's Head Alehouse in Oxford-Road, and Mr. Hutchins of Hanover-Square, were returning home from Kensington Gravel-Pits, they were attacked near Bayswater by two Footpads, who attempted to rob them. Mr. Walter seized one of the Fellows, and Mr. Hutchins going to take the other, he made off. The Fellow seiz'd by Mr. Walter pretended he was in Liquor, and that he did not intend to rob them, upon which they let him go; but soon after they were again set upon and robb'd by the said Fellows; the former of One Shilling and Ten Pence Halfpenny, and the latter of Three Guineas, some Silver, and a Watch.

His Majesty has been pleas'd to appoint his Grace the Duke of Argyll to be Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's Land-Forces.

Last Night about 8 o'Clock a young Woman pretty well dress'd, flung herself into the Canal in St. James's Park, in order to drown herself, but was prevented by several Persons who happen'd to be nigh at hand.

Yesterday Rose Smith, otherwise Dougherty, was committed to Newgate by Col. De Veil, for stealing out of the Shop of Dame Elizabeth Clarke, in Duke's Court, Lace to the Value of 8 l. found upon her.

The same Day Rochford Fitzgerald was detain'd in Newgate by Col. De Veil, for feloniously uttering and publishing a false and counterfeit Note for 12 l. 10 s. knowing it to be so.

#### BANKRUPTS.

Patrick Russel, of Cannon-street, London, Stationer. John Colcott, of the Three Tonn Tavern at Holborn-bridge, London, Vintner.

Mathew Metcalf, of Rosemary-lane, East Smithfield, in Middlesex, Salesman and Chapman.

Peter Seager, of Hounslow, in Middlesex, Innholder.

John Phillips, late of Camberwell, in Surry, Gardener, Dealer and Chapman.

Thomas Rolph, of Bilericay, Essex, Collar-maker.

High Water this Day	Morning	Evening
at London Bridge,	08 07	08 38

Bank 138 1-4th, without the Dividend. India 158. South Sea 98 1-4th. Old Annuity 111 1-half. New ditto 110 1-4th. Three per Cent. 100 7-10ths. Seven per Cent. Loan 108 3-4ths. Five per Cent. ditto 91. Royal Assurance 87. London Assurance 111 1-4th. African 10. India Bonds 4 l. 10 s. to 11 s. Prem. Bank Circulation 4 l. 15 s. Premium. Salt Tallow 1-4th to 1-half Prem. English Copper 3 l. 7 s. 6 d. Welsh ditto 15 s. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 102 1-4th to 1-half. Three per Cent ditto 95 1-half. Million Bank 114. Equivalent 110 1-8th.

*The First of May next will be Publish'd, (Beautifully printed on a fine Paper, in Four Volumes in Folio)*

**THE Works of FRANCIS BACON, Baron** of Verulam, Viscount St. Alban, and Lord High Chancellor of England. In which are several Pieces never before printed in any Edition of his Works. With A New Life of the Author, by Mr. Mallet.

Such Gentlemen as intend to encourage this Work are desired to send their Names this Day, the List of the Subscribers being to be printed off To-morrow; after which Time the Price will be advanced.

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#### To be Sold by AUCTION,

At the White Lion in Wyck-street, near New-Inn, This Evening (being the 24th Night's Sale) and the 2 following Evenings,

**THE Library of Sir Philip Sydenham,** Bart. deceased.

In this Night's Sale are,

Octavo.	Weaver's Fun. Mon. w. Table
Rail Synopsis Avium & Pisc.	Wanley's Wond. of Lit. Wor.
Chevreau's Hist. of the World,	Serarius de Reb. Mogunt. 2 v.
5 vol.	Spanhemii Diff. de Usu Numismatum Antiq. 2 v.
Chardin's Travels, with Cuts,	Septuag. Interp. per Græc. 2 v.
2 vol.	Surenhusii Miscellanea, five Juris
Willis's Surv. Cath. St. A. faph.	Hebr. Syt. 6 v.
Herodiani Historia Gr. & Lat.	Strabonis Geogr. Gr. & Lat. cum
chart. mag.	Notis Diverf. 2 v.
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